

Statistics of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal [1841].

STATISTICS OF THE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL.

The subjoined tables principally taken from the Census Documents of 1840, together with the following statements, are submitted for *public* consideration, and with a view to illustrate in part, the importance of a section of country remarkable for the immense quantities of grain it produces, and from whence the cheapest and most direct route to a seaport market is by the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, a work in every respect justly deserving to be called a Great National Channel of Commerce among the States of the American Union.

17 Counties, which are more or less tributary to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Population of each county. Bushels of Wheat. Bushels of Barley. Bushels of Oats. Bushels of Rye. Bushels of Buckwheat. Bushels of Corn. Aggregate production of each county. Average number of bushels per each inhabitant in each county. Alleghany, Md., 15,690 86,648 292 213,581 48,309 30,112 121,747 500,689 32 Washington, Md., 28,850 668,787 268 436,861 111,829 1,864 655,041 1,874,653 65 Frederick, Md., 36,405 734,767 666 307,181 221,550 3,520 706,694 1,974,378 54 Montgomery, Md., 14,669 142,757 870 225,168 27,704 2,638 398,385 797,522 54 Morgan, 4,253 37,527 2 41,590 13,812 4,880 63,101 160,912 38 Berkeley, 10,972 287,127 50 135,920 38,005 2,293 390,948 854,343 78 Jefferson, 14,082 516,969 4,230 71,999 41,975 218 988,552 1,623,943 115 Clarke, 6,353 258,104 — 90,776 17,096 909 266,904 633,789 100 Frederick, 14,242 173,289 83 134,703 30,630 8,458 300,107 647,270 45 Warren, 5,627 148,372 57,644 17,390 4,881 219,320 447,607 80 Virginia. Shenandoah, 11,618 164,275 471 105,090 32,357 3,109 298,649 603,951 52 Page, 6,194 105,199 29,166 29,886 1,412 155,784 321,447 52 Hardy, 7,622 84,604 40,830 18,186 3,784 410,942 558,346 73 Hampshire, 12,295 178,714 173,953 52,148 26,167 470,797 901,779 73 Pendleton, 6,940 65,725 51,168 35,548 839 130,010 283,290 41 Augusta, 19,628 324,332 71 244,889 92,227 2,897 384,408 1,048,824 54 Rockingham, 17,344 375,197 1,027 248,412 90,886 6,483 470,584 1,192,589 69 Total 232,784 4,352,393 8,030 2,608,934 919,538 104,466 6,431,773 14,425,134 62

By the foregoing data, it appears that a population of 232,784 persons, including men, women and children, old and young, in the above named seventeen counties, produce 14,425,134 bushels of grain, being within a fraction equal to 62 bushels per each inhabitant. During the year 1846, (estimating in round numbers,) 1,350 canal boats left Georgetown for the interior, and 1,400 arrived at that port with full cargoes, among which were 200,000 barrels of flour. In the month of April of the present year, (1847,) 200 boats passed up the canal from Georgetown, and the receipts thus far, (August 1,) have largely exceeded those of any previous year since the opening of the canal.

Aggregate production of grain in the United States. Number of persons employed in the different industrial branches in the United States. Bushels of wheat, 84,823,272 Agriculture, 3,717,756

Bushels of barley, 4,161,504 Manufactures and trades, 791,545 Bushels of oats, 123,071,341
Commerce, 117,575 Bushels of rye, 18,645,567 Learned professions and engineers, 65,236
Bushels of buckwheat, 7,291,743 Navigating the ocean, 56,025 Bushels of corn, 377,531,875
Navigating canals, lakes and rivers, 33,067 Mining, 15,203 Total, 615,525,302 Total, 4,796,407

The above tables show that the **farmers** in the aforementioned **17** counties, produce about one 42d part of all the grain raised in the United States, and that they do so with a population equal only to about one 73d part of the whole number, which in **1840**, was **17,069,453**. Also that their average production per each individual resident within their limits, is almost double the proportionate quantity grown in all the States—those counties producing 62 bushels per head, and the production of the country at large, averaging no more than about 36 bushels per each inhabitant. Facts of such magnitude as these cannot be otherwise than highly creditable to the country along the **entire line of the Canal**, and especially to **the Valley of the Shenandoah**, while they speak volumes in praise of the **industry** and **capability** of the **agriculturists** of that fertile region.

It is likewise demonstrated by the same authority, that nearly 4–5ths or 4 out of 5 of the **working** portion of our Republic, are engaged in **agriculture**.